

Daniel F. Ford Playground at Emerson Garden

Brookline, MA



Daniel F. Ford Playground at Emerson Garden

JUNE 13, 2016



Welcome Everyone!

We are here to listen to you!

AGENDA

- Project Overview
- Goals, Needs and Opportunities
- Design Concepts and Options
- Open Discussion
- Conclusion





Project Goals

- Improve Accessibility: ability for all ages and abilities to access the park
- Improve Safety: address site safety issues: play equipment, trip hazards, etc.
- Improve Grading and Drainage: adjust site elevations to allow stormwater to flow to working catch basins
- Upgrade Infrastructure: repair, refurbish or replace infrastructure that is in poor condition
- Accommodate multiple generations: placemaking as a way for everyone to feel like there is a place for them in the park.



Summary of Public Comments

- Balance types of uses (passive and active)
- Balance landscape/aesthetics with the heavy use
- Accommodate all age groups including teens
- Expand play area for a mix of age groups
 - Consider linear active equipment along the walkways; exercise equipment
 - Some felt the sand makes the pavement slippery; others noted the beneficial aspects of sand
- Drainage needs to be improved
 - Walkway surfaces
 - Protect lawns
 - Address over-compaction of the soil under the trees



Summary of Public Comments

- Plantings
 - Native
 - Needs irrigation in order to thrive
 - Variety, label tree species
 - Perimeter planting
- Consider historic context in details/site furnishings
- Consider fencing/gates to protect children from busy adjacent streets
- Consolidate signage
- Provide water fountain with bottle filler and dog fountain



Needs and Opportunities

ENTRANCES AND CIRCULATION



Clarify, improve safety, create signature space

GARDEN EDGE CONDITION



Unify outer edge, simplify plantings

SEATING AND GATHERING



Unify site furnishings



Repair, improve drainage



Address conditions along inner park edge



Accommodate all users



Needs and Opportunities

PLAY
EQUIPMENT



Update equipment

SPRAY
PAD



Improve drainage issues



New surfacing



Accessible controls



Needs and Opportunities

LAWNS



Reduce chances for compaction



Regrade to move stormwater

PLANTINGS



Reinforce tree plantings



Install infrastructure to maintain plantings (i.e. irrigation)



Needs and Opportunities

UTILITIES



Repair/replace as necessary

DRAINAGE



Update and increase number of catch basins



Improve aesthetics where possible



Regrade and stabilize soils to reduce erosion



CONCEPT A

- Similar to existing
- Simplified

ENTRANCES

- Curbed "garden"
- Ornamental fencing & bollards
- Seating and signage

CIRCULATION

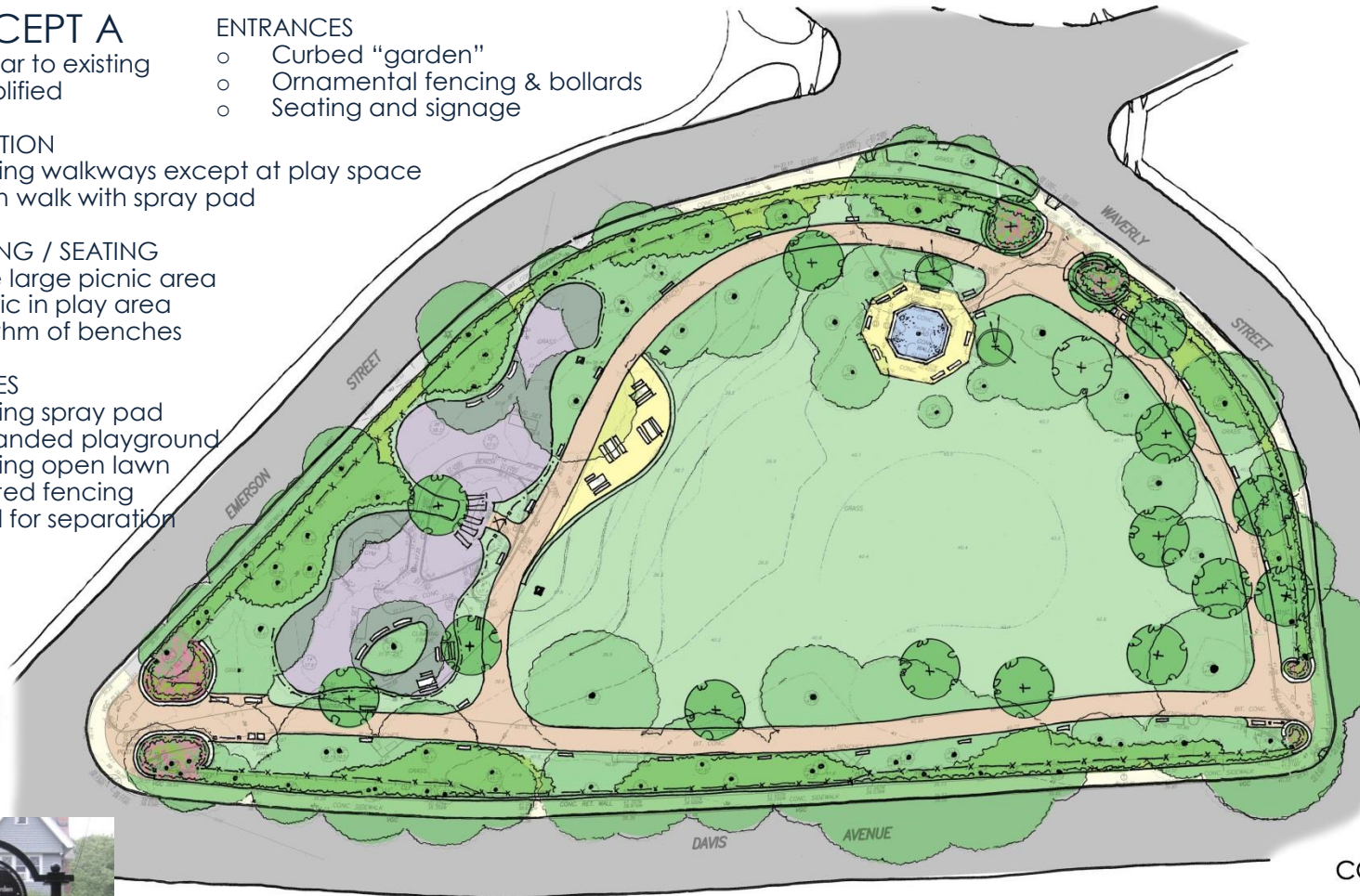
- Existing walkways except at play space
- Align walk with spray pad

GATHERING / SEATING

- One large picnic area
- Picnic in play area
- Rhythm of benches

USE ZONES

- Existing spray pad
- Expanded playground
- Existing open lawn
- Limited fencing wall for separation



CONCEPT PLAN - A
JUNE 13, 2016



CONCEPT B

- Open space for all users
- Vignettes in the garden

ENTRANCES

- Gated with switch-back
- Ornamental fence

CIRCULATION

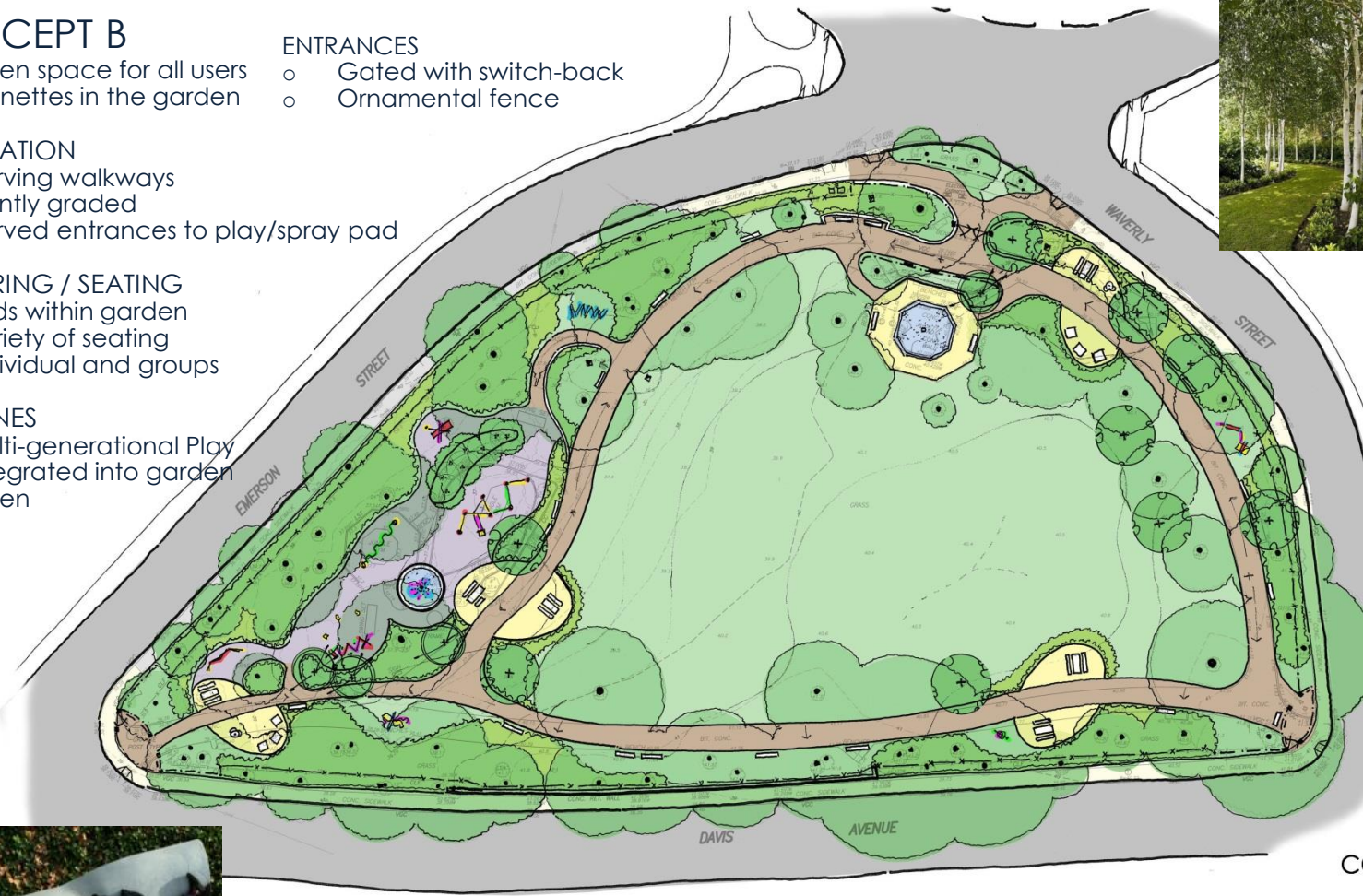
- Curving walkways
- Gently graded
- Curved entrances to play/spray pad

GATHERING / SEATING

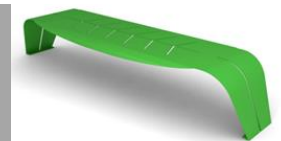
- Pods within garden
- Variety of seating
- Individual and groups

USE ZONES

- Multi-generational Play
- Integrated into garden
- Open



CONCEPT PLAN - B
JUNE 13, 2016



CONCEPT C

- Separation of Uses:
Garden & Play

CIRCULATION

- Existing walkways except at play space
- Distinct entrances to play space

GATHERING / SEATING

- Rhythm of benches
- No designated

USE ZONES

- Separation
- Fence/Gate at play

ENTRANCES

- Signature "garden" beds
- Added entrances
- No gates except at play



CONCEPT PLAN - C
JUNE 13, 2016



CONCEPT C

- Separation of Uses:
Garden & Play

OPTIONS

- Move water play with other play
- Central gathering spaces, gazebo or terraced space



CONCEPT D

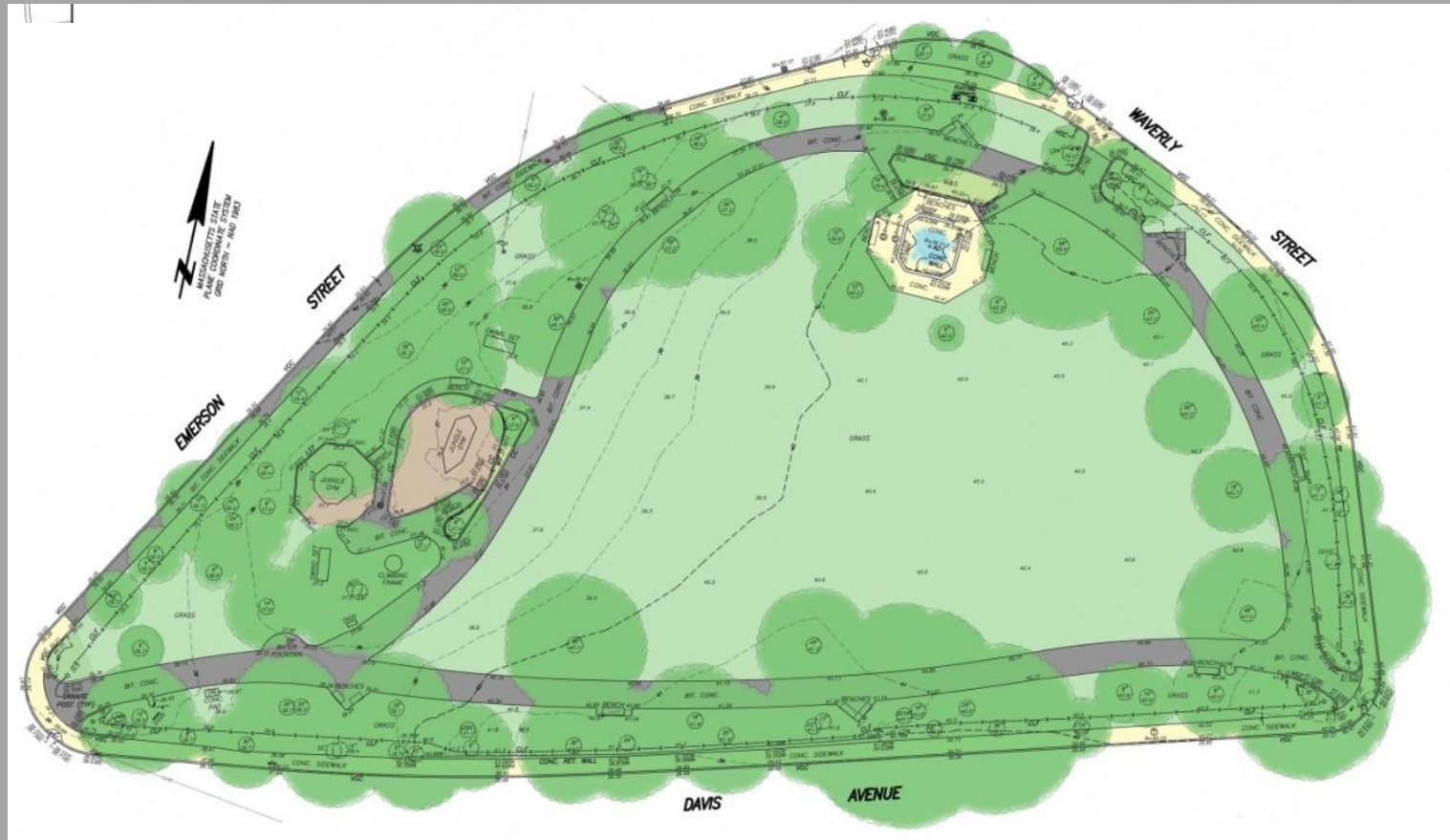
- o Combo: B & C
- o Simplified
- o Signature "garden" entrances
- o Curved walkways
- o Variety and informal seating
- o Move spray pad
- o Separated uses: fence/gate at play



CONCEPT PLAN - D
JUNE 13, 2016



What do YOU want for your park?



Open Discussion

WHAT ENHANCEMENTS WOULD IMPROVE YOUR EXPERIENCE IN THE PARK?

WHAT CHALLENGES SHOULD BE RESOLVED WITH THE UPDATED DESIGN?

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP PRIORITIES FOR THE PARK IMPROVEMENTS?

WHAT ACTIVITIES DO YOUR CHILDREN ENJOY ON A PLAYGROUND?

CHALLENGING? SENSORY? SOCIAL? THEMED? FAMILIAR OR UNIQUE?



Open Discussion

- Formal garden entries
- Existing walks with expanded play
- Permanent picnic
- Fence sections and wall for separation



- Gated entries
- Curved walks
- Gathering pods
- Open uses



- Walled garden entries
- Existing walks with expanded play
- Rhythm of benches
- Separated uses



- Walled garden entries
- Curved walks
- Informal seating
- Separated uses



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Age Groups



0-2



2-5



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Age Groups



5-12



5-100

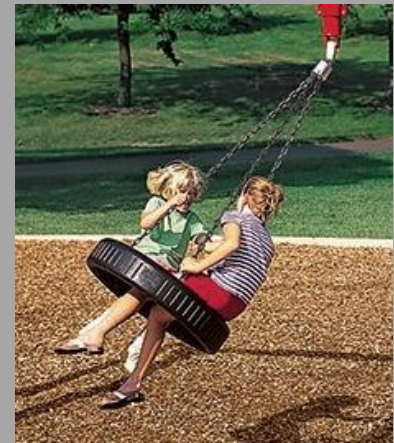


PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

MOTION

Swinging



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

MOTION

Rocking



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

MOTION

Bouncing



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

MOTION

Spinning



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

MOTION

Sliding



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

MOTION

Climbing
0-5



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

MOTION

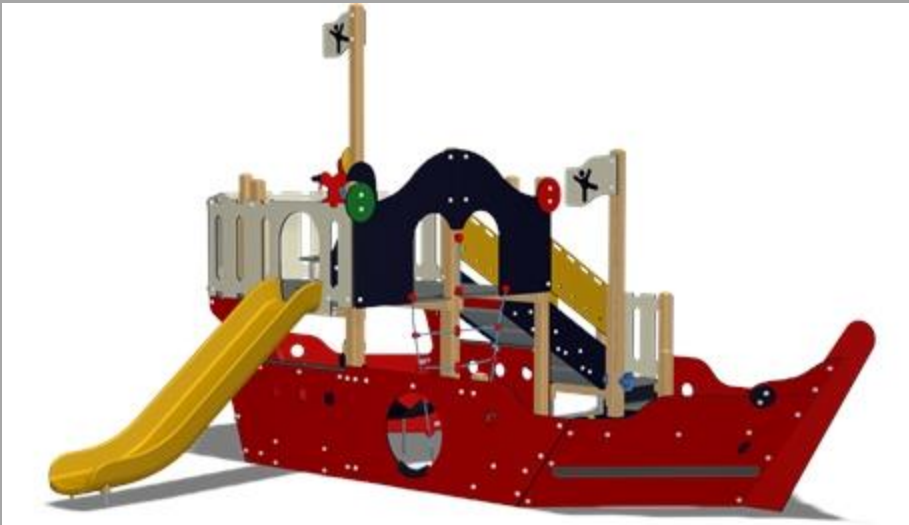
Climbing
5-12



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

PRETEND PLAY



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

IMAGINATION PLAY



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

SENSORY PLAY



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

GATHERING IN PLAY



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

FITNESS PLAY



Daniel F. Ford Playground at Emerson Garden

JUNE 13, 2016



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

THEMED PLAY

Ship/Boat



PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

THEMED PLAY

Garden

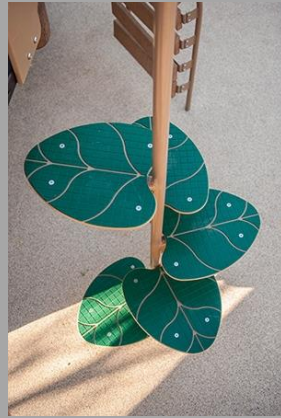


PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

THEMED PLAY

Nature

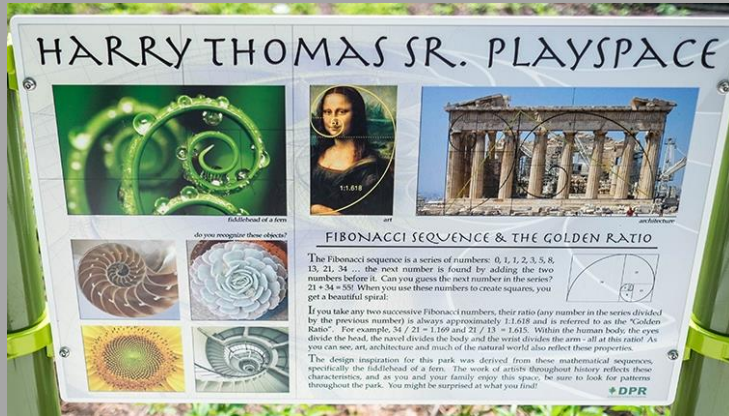


PLAYGROUND OPTIONS

Types of Play

Unique

THEMED PLAY



Daniel F. Ford Playground at Emerson Garden

JUNE 13, 2016



Open Discussion

WHAT ACTIVITIES DO YOUR CHILDREN ENJOY ON A PLAYGROUND?
CHALLENGING? SENSORY? SOCIAL? THEMED? FAMILIAR OR UNIQUE?



Open Discussion

Playground Options

Age Groups

0-2

2-5

5-12

5-100

Motion

Swinging

Rocking

Bouncing

Spinning

Sliding

Climbing

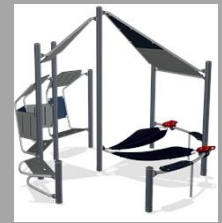
Pretend Play

Discovery Play

Gathering Play

Fitness Play

Themed Play



Daniel F. Ford Playground at Emerson Garden

JUNE 13, 2016



Contact Information

Your input is valuable - Please
contact us with your ideas!

Parks and Open Space Division
Town of Brookline
Kathleen Fasser, Landscape Architect/ Planner
333 Washington Street
Brookline, MA 02445

Telephone: 617-730-6490
Email: kfasser@brooklinema.gov

